

Rom. 12:19. (See Judges 15:7; 16:28.
2. Self-willed. John 5:30. 3. Sought
selfish and carnal pleasures. I Cor. 6:18-20;
Prov. 6:23, 24.

b. Samson's virtues. 1. Loved his
country. 2. Acknowledged God the source
of his strength. Judges 16:28.

J. L. GILLIN.

SERMONS IN QUAIN TEXTS

Text: Philip ran thither to him. Acts 8:30.

That was a very practical thing for Philip to do, and is just what all Christians ought to do. Too many Christians are afraid to speak to others about their souls, but Philip was a man of God and had no fears. The man to whom he talked was not only a stranger to him, but he was a man of high rank. He was reading and Philip might have said with many others, he is busy and no doubt does not want to be interrupted. But the spirit had directed him to go and join himself to the chariot, and as a gospel preacher he was ready for any work the Lord might have for him to do. More than once has the Spirit spoken to us and directed us to speak a word to some poor, lost soul but we have failed to heed the call. Every lost sinner you meet is a voice from God saying, "Go speak to that man about his soul." These are opportunities all of us have and we should make the very best use of them. Many times does God bring us across others' pathway because he wants some one to speak to them about their soul's salvation. We should be quick to follow every guiding providence and obey every prompting of the Spirit. The destiny of a human soul may depend upon the speaking of that one word. Will you speak it?

Text: He gave her his hand and raised her up. Acts 9:41.

The hand of Peter was a helping hand as is the hand of every Christian. At the Gate Beautiful this same hand took hold of the lame man's hand and helped him on his feet. This is the kind of work that is continually needed in this world. The helping hand is always in demand, because there is human need everywhere. It is a fact that the helping hand in this world is the Christian hand. It is the hand that ministers to the sick, that lifts up the fallen. There are many people down, unable to get up who would be on their feet if some kind hand would but give them a lift. It is a blessed and sweet ministry, this helping hand of the Christian. There is no more blessed service than to "lend a hand" to those who are down and trying to get up from their spiritual death.

STUDIES IN THE MINOR PROPHETS—NO. 7

OUTLINE OF OBADIAH

I am always led to the analysis of a book or production which is before me to be studied. I think analysis in our Bible study to be indispensable. It simplifies. It removes difficulties to the correct understanding. So I begin this study with a suggestive outline of this little Book of Obadiah.

I. Title. Vs. 1.

II. The divine judgment on Edom. Vss. 2-9. (1) The message is from the Lord. (2) Edom's self-security fails and in her pride she is humbled. (3) She is deceived by friends and ensnared by allies. (4) Her wise men fail and fall with her mighty men.

III. The reasons for Edom's severe judgment. Vss. 10-14. (1) Edom dealt violently and mercilessly with her brother Jacob. (2) She assisted in and rejoiced over the destruction of Judah. (3) She cuts off the retreat of the escaping ones.

IV. The general judgment of all nations. Vss. 14-21. (1) The coming of the "Day of Jehovah." (2) Edom, for her violent dealing with the people of the Lord, shall receive her just retribution. (3) *But* Mt. Zion shall be saved, all her captives shall be set free, and the "Kingdom shall be the Lord's."

THE WEEK'S WORK

1. Review the outline making one of your own.
2. Study the contents of the Book.
3. Write out in your note-book all the Old Testament references to Edom.
4. How were all these Prophecies fulfilled?

NOTES

1. In these studies as well as in all our Bible study the Revised Version is to be preferred.
2. The word "Lord" when printed in small capital is in the Hebrew always the word "Jehovah." This is done to distinguish it from several other words rendered "Lord."
3. Do not forget that the Prophets were the preachers of the Old Dispensation. They did not so much *fore-tell* coming events as *forth-tell* the Law of God and the duties of people.
4. A most important fact, essential to the correct understanding of any Prophecy is its historical basis.

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BIBLE MEETINGS

Z. T. LIVENGOD

For a number of years I have been impressed with the need of more thorough Bible study among the laity, and even quite frequently this need is, and has been felt among the ministry. The study of the Bible has been almost wholly confined to preaching and Sunday-school work. Good work has been done. But in the future we must do better. Past achievements will not suffice for future needs. The church and the world and the home of the schools and the state all need a better understanding of the Book. My personal experience has been, that where a congregation is fed upon eloquence only, or where the church has been entertained, only, and where the Gospel of Jesus Christ was not taught and proclaimed, there you will find a weak, sickly, degenerate and half-dead church, if not entirely dead. Brethren, in God's Holy Word is our power. In it is our success. Out of it is our failure. The Bible meetings at Enon,

Iowa and the missionary meetings at Milledgeville, and Lanark, Ill., and Enon, Iowa, have set me to more serious thought and reflection. The need of the church is more and better and thorough Bible study. The Editor has well said that these meetings ought to be held in every church and especially when a church is small or weak, or has become disorganized. Our state and district Evangelists and missionary boards will do well to study and acquaint themselves with the work and the best methods.

In my limited investigation and experience I favor the plan adopted in the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill. Not many of us can go there, but we can in a great many cases in nearly all the churches if not all, form classes and there and then obtain a very good knowledge of the word, I think that we might have a class at our state and National conferences and spend, say one hour per day in the thorough and systematic study of one or more books of the Bible, or even several subjects of Bible interest might be taught in these meetings, where all could take part and any one would feel perfectly free to give or receive information. The Illiokota district is looking forward to more and better meetings of this kind. Thus will the laity old and young become more acquainted and interested and imbued with the divine teachings of this Word which is able to save unto the uttermost.

At Enon we had three sessions each day. This was a little too much for those attending and made too much labor and study. Two sessions a day are perhaps enough for any ordinary congregation. The pastor must know his people and be wise, and make the sessions and studies to suit the class. May the Holy Spirit prepare us for this work and then may he guide us and teach us to do his work and do it well, and then will the church be more of a power for good and power to save a lost and ruined world.

The Mission Field

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COURSE OF READING

First Year	Cloth	Paper
1. Crisis of Missions—(Pierson.)	\$1 06	29
2. Armenian Ampitheater.		09
3. Do Not Say.		09
4. Our Country.	51	25
5. Life of Sammy Morris.		10
6. Choice Extracts—(Meyer.)		06
		87

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